EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Matthew L. Schneider on December 4, 2009. The examiner contacted Mr. Schneider to request permission for examiner's amendment to correct 112 second paragraph issues only and the amendments do not change the scope of the claims.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Specification, Page 9, line 7, "silver vapor atmosphere while controlling" has been changed to "sliver vapor atmosphere in a control manner," in Page 10, line 1, "wabliike" has been changed to "web-like."

1. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a packaging laminate material, the process for producing at least a ~~web-like~~ laminate material web for a packaging container composed of a base layer and a thermally sealable inner layer, comprising the steps of:

heating metallic silver to form a silver vapor atmosphere;

carrying a ~~web-like~~ base film web continuously or intermittently in the silver vapor atmosphere so as to form a thin film of metallic silver on a surface of the ~~web-like~~ base film web when or after an oxygen-containing gas is introduced into the silver vapor atmosphere;

oxidizing ~~part/entirety~~ a part of or the entirety of the metallic silver simultaneously or subsequently into silver oxide by the oxygen-containing gas to convert into a thin film of silver oxide;

drawing out the ~~web-like~~ base film web provided with the thin film of silver oxide from the silver vapor atmosphere containing the oxygen-containing gas to thereby obtain a ~~wablike~~ base layer web;

laminating an inner face of the inside of the ~~web-like~~ base layer web with a thermally sealable inner layer;

printing a container design indirectly or directly on an outer face of the outside of the ~~web-like~~ base layer web; and

forming simultaneously or successively~~, the same kind of or a different kind of, and the singular number of or a plurality of thermoplastic layers and/or support layers~~ at least one thermoplastic layer and or support layer on the outer face and inner face of the ~~web-like~~ base layer web.

6. (Currently Amended) The process for producing the packaging laminate material according to claim 1, wherein the ~~web-like~~ base film web includes one kind, or two or more kinds of barrier films of a silicon oxide film, an aluminum oxide film or/and a rigid carbon film formed on at least one surface.

7. (Currently Amended) The process for producing the packaging laminate material according to claim 1, wherein the ~~web-like~~ base film web is composed of a

polymer of one kind, or two kinds or more selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene produced by a metallocene catalyst, medium-density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, polypropylene, poly(ethylene naphthalate), ethylene vinyl alcohol, polyamide, a polycondensate of metaxylenediamine and adipic acid, polyvinyl alcohol, an ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, an ethylene-methacrylic acid copolymer, an ethylene-ethyl acrylate copolymer, an ethylene-methyl acrylate copolymer, an ethylene-acrylic acid copolymer and a cyclic olefin copolymer, paper, or a laminate body of the polymer and the paper.

8. (New) The process for producing the packaging laminate material according to claim 1, wherein the forming of the at least one thermoplastic layer and/or support layer on the outer face and inner face of the base layer web comprises forming the same kind of thermoplastic layer and/or support layer on the outer face and inner face of the base layer web.

9. (New) The process for producing the packaging laminate material according to claim 1, wherein the forming of the at least one thermoplastic layer and/or support layer on the outer face and inner face of the base layer web comprises forming a different kind of thermoplastic layer and/or support layer on the outer face and inner face of the base layer web.

10. (New) The process for producing the packaging laminate material according to claim 1, wherein the forming of the at least one thermoplastic layer and/or support layer on the outer face and inner face of the base layer web comprises forming a plurality of thermoplastic layers and/or support layers on the outer face and inner face of the base layer web.

11. (New) The process for producing the packaging laminate material according to claim 1, wherein the forming of the at least one thermoplastic layer and/or support layer on the outer face and inner face of the base layer web comprises forming a single thermoplastic layer and/or support layer on the outer face and inner face of the base layer web.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-11 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claims recite a method for producing a packaging laminate material, the method for producing at least a laminate material web for a packaging container composed of a base layer and a thermally sealable inner layer, comprising the steps of:

heating metallic silver to form a silver vapor atmosphere;

carrying a base film web continuously or intermittently in the silver vapor atmosphere so as to form a thin film of metallic silver on a surface of the base film web when or after an oxygen-containing gas is introduced into the silver vapor atmosphere;

oxidizing part/entirety of the metallic silver simultaneously or subsequently into silver oxide by the oxygen-containing gas to convert into a thin film of silver oxide;

drawing out the base film web provided with the thin film of silver oxide from the silver vapor atmosphere containing the oxygen-containing gas to thereby obtain a base layer web;

laminating an inner face of the inside of the base layer web with a thermally sealable inner layer;

printing a container design indirectly or directly on an outer face of the outside of the base layer web; and

forming simultaneously or successively at least one thermoplastic layer and or support layer on the outer face and inner face of the base layer web. Okura et al (U.S. 7,033,679) discloses a method of forming metal film such as silver metal. The method includes providing an evaporation source (20) that holds an evaporation material (9) in a boat (1), providing an electrical power supply to heat the boat for evaporating the evaporation material (9), supplying an inert gas though an inert gas supply source connected via a flow controller (Col 11, lines 9-57), a feed roller having a tape of film substrate (10A) wound thereon and a take up roller (32) whereon the film substrate (10A) that has been fed from the feed roller (31) is wound up being disposed in the chamber (11) and forming metal film continuously on the surface of the film substrate (10A) (Col 14, line 52 To Col 15, line8) and the metal includes aluminum and silver if the substrate is plastic (Col 16, line 21-30). Furthermore, the metal can be oxide by supplying oxygen gas in addition to inert gas such as argon gas the chamber (11) (Col

17, lines 20-27) but Okura et al does not discloses oxidizing sliver metal on the substrate. A search of the prior art of record did not discloses reference or references in combination with recited feature.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SING P. CHAN whose telephone number is (571)272-1225. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:30AM-11:00AM and 12:00PM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Philip C. Tucker can be reached on 571-272-1095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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